

The **Parks and Recreation Board** met Monday, January 24, 2011, 4:30 pm, at City Hall, Council Chambers. Present at said meeting were Karen Springer, John MacDonald, Patrick Flannely, Aimee Jacobsen, Richard Shockley and Attorney Andy Gutwein. Joe Payne, Chris Foley, Lee Booth, Brenda Lorenz, Cheryl Kolb and Dan Dunten represented the department. Present from the City was Clerk-Treasurer Judy Rhodes and Council member Ann Hunt. Absent from the meeting were Council members Gerald Thomas and Gerry Keen, and staff member Pennie Ainsworth.

Karen convened the Board at 4:35pm.

The first item of the agenda was the approval of the minutes from the December 20, 2010 meeting. Aimee motioned to approve the minutes. Richard seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Superintendent – Joe reported on the following:

- Noted the Council Report was included in the mailing, along with an annual department report.
- He attended the Indiana Parks & Recreation Association's State Conference three days last week in Indianapolis. Joe noted, while at the conference, he participated in a silent auction, in which he was awarded the winning bid at \$300.00, for six, 3.5-inch October Glory trees valued at over \$1,200.00, to be purchased with funds from our Non-Reverting Gift Fund.

Dan reported the department has received a Department of Natural Resources grant for \$2,000.00 to add additional trees to our properties. Three Elm trees will be planted around the area where the Farmers Market is held. Oak and Hickory trees will be added along the south and west side of the drives, and the parking area, at Celery Bog Nature Area. We are hopeful to incorporate the planting of those trees with our Arbor Day celebration this spring.

Assistant Superintendent – Pennie reported on the following:

- n/a

Parks – Lee reported on the following:

- Trail and Playground Inspections presented
- Working on Morton Community Center lounge makeover
- Removing limbs and fallen trees from Michaud-Sinniger Woods from storm damage last summer
- Continued work on repainting and repairing park signs
- Snow removal continues

Recreation Report – Chris reported on the following:

- Reported that Pennie is out due to shoulder surgery.
- Programs offered in the Winter/Spring 2011 brochure have begun.
- Reservations for shelter rentals in the parks began on January 4. The weekends during the summer months continue to be the most popular.

Riverside Skating Center still continues to be a popular place this winter.

- On January 8, a one-day Learn to Skate Clinic was offered. Twenty-eight skaters enrolled for the two-hour clinic to learn the basic skills.

- Group Ice Skating lessons began on January 15 with 103 children participating. The four (4) week lessons will continue through February 5.
- The Center's annual Dare to Bear will be held Friday, February 4 from 7:00-8:30pm. Brave skaters will make laps around the ice rink in their bathing suits or costumes. The theme for this year's event will be Super Heroes.
- The West Lafayette High School & JV Boy's basketball program visited at today's 2nd & 3rd Grade basketball program. They participated in practice and signed autographs for the younger children.

Morton Center – Brenda reported on the following:

- AARP will have representatives at Morton on Wednesday afternoons throughout February giving tax assistance to seniors and those people with low incomes. They may extend their time at Morton into March if they receive enough interest. Appointments are required.
- Morton was featured in a Casual Friday segment on WLFI-TV 18 on Friday, January 7. Three of the instructors came and did demonstrations with Laura Kirtley, one of the news anchors. I heard from a number of people that they did see Morton on TV that day.
- Morton hosted the monthly Director's Roundtable group on Monday, January 10. Members of the group consist of directors of area art agencies such as the Art Museum, TAF, Purdue Galleries, Civic Theatre, Purdue Convocations, Morton, and a number of other agencies.
- An automatic door opener has been installed at Morton at the Southeast entrance. This installation was done through a grant received by Tippecanoe County to improve voting centers.

Old Business

Tommy Johnston Park Update

Joe noted the Redevelopment Commission has approved a spending plan, which provides a \$100,000.00 maximum appropriation for renovation in Tommy Johnston Park. We intend to replace the old hybrid basketball/tennis court that is damaged beyond repair, with a basketball court with one basket at each end. In addition, the park will undergo improvements to the pedestrian flow through the park by improving the sidewalks, new signage, landscaping, etc. The Chauncey Cooperative, which is a group of men that live next door, have expressed interest in working with us regarding trash clean-up, maintenance work, etc. when people are living in the house.

New Business

Fundraiser for Food Finders Food Bank

William "Billy" Brand presented a request on behalf of Friends of Downtown and Ken McCammon, to host a fundraiser February 17, 2011 for Food Finders Food Bank. The fundraiser would include a broomball hockey exhibition, along with a beer garden hosted by People's Brewery & possibly Lafayette Brewing Company. Discussion followed, during which it was the consensus that a beer garden would not be a part of

this year's event. Richard motioned to approve the request for 02/17/11, without the beer garden. Aimee seconded the motion and the motion carried. Motion is to include a demo, which must take place first, with staff authorizing final approval for the event. Following the motion, the vote by members was 4 – Ayes, 1 – Nay, with the vote passing.

Request from Bauer Community Center

Cassie Leak, Bauer Community Center, has requested to bring thirty-five youth to Riverside Skating Center during public skating, to provide an opportunity to kids the chance to ice skate that might otherwise not have the exposure, requesting the fee be free or at a reduced cost. Discussion followed. Pat motioned to approve the request at a reduced cost, per discussion. John seconded the motion and the motion carried. Bauer Community Center agreed to a \$50.00 fee with the date/time during a public skating session to be coordinated with Sue Mattern.

2011 NRO Budget

Chris noted that the Board received the budget information in their packets, asking that they approve the budget as presented, dating back to January 01, 2011. Judy provided an overview of the fund and distributed a revised graph of the fund's history from 1990-2011. Discussion followed. Richard motioned to approve the 2011 NRO Budget as presented. Pat seconded the motion and the motion carried.

2011 GLRSA Soccer Use Agreement

Joe presented the item as being the same as in years past; with the exception of the new wording that references the use of the golf cart by the Greater Lafayette Recreational Soccer Alliance. The term of agreement covers use of the Cumberland Park area for March 19-May 21 and August 1-October 28, 2011, Monday-Friday, 4:00p-8:00pm, Saturday, 8:00am-8:00pm, and Sunday, 12:00pm-8:00pm, with no games before 8:00am or after dusk. Richard motioned to approve the agreement as presented. Pat seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Proposal from New Community School

Joe presented proposal from New Community School to use Tapawingo Park and the surface of the concrete ice rink (for Baggo) for a new fundraising event, The Amazing Race Lafayette-West Lafayette, on Saturday, April 30, from 9:00am-9:00pm. It will include non-exclusive use of the trail as part of The Amazing Race endeavor, going from hilltop-to-hilltop. A shuttle will also be used for part of the route involved. Two events are planned, one for adults, and the other for adults/children. Richard motioned to approve the event proposed by New Community School as presented. John seconded the motion and the motion carried.

West Lafayette School Board – Karen reported the following:

- The West Lafayette Athletic Booster Club is hosting a Winter Sport Spirit Dinner, this Friday, January 28, 5:00-8:00pm, prior to the games between West Lafayette and Delphi, which will also include a halftime exhibition of the Red Storm Fifth Grade boys' basketball program. The dinner is an All You Can Eat Chili Dinner, with costs of \$5/person, \$15/immediate family. The funds raised that evening will be used for the athletic program.

- West Lafayette Schools Education Foundation has its annual Westside Story event planned for Saturday, February 26, 6:00-11:00pm, at University Plaza. The event will include dinner, dancing and an auction.
- Reported the school calendar includes four snow days built in, none of which have been used to date. The first snow day is President's Day, February 21. If the school corporation does not have a snow day prior to that day, the corporation will have that day off. There are two more days in April, a Friday-Monday, with the fourth day at the end of the school year.

Wabash River

Richard noted nothing new to report. The next meeting is this Friday, January 28 at 8:00am. Joe distributed a copy of the agenda for anyone interested in attending.

Other

Joe pointed out that our Indiana Park and Recreation Association started last year, with our conference held here, a Pinewood Derby event as a fundraiser. Money raised from the event goes to the scholarship fund, in which the money is distributed during the Annual Golf Outing. This year our replica '65 Chevy, People's Brewery, flatbed truck with kegs on it, won the "Most Realistic" category.

Pay Claims

Richard motioned for claims to be paid. Pat seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Adjourn

Richard motioned to adjourn the meeting. John seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 5:50pm.

Presiding Officer

Secretary